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SUBJECT: UN COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USE OF OUTER SPACE
(COPUOS): HUNGARIAN CANDIDATE FOR 2010 ELECTIONS

¶1. On July 28, Post received a note verbal in English dated July 17 announcing the candidacy of Mr. Elod Both for the chairmanship of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). Mr. Elod is a well-respected academic who is committed to making space science accessible to the general public; he regularly writes popular science articles for a prominent Hungarian magazine.

¶2. Here is the full text of the note verbale exactly as received:

Begin text

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to inform that the Government of the Republic of Hungary has decided to present the candidature of Mr. Elod Both for the Chairmanship of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) for the period of 2010-11 COPUOS at the elections to be held during the 53rd session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in June 2010.

The Hungarian candidate, Mr. Elod Both is a physicist and an astronomer, a graduate of the Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest (1976). He received a Ph.D. degree from the same University in celestial mechanics and upper atmospheric research for his studies in the effect of the upper atmosphere on satellite lifetimes. Mr. Elod Both has been working in the Hungarian Space Office since 1993. In 1997 he was appointed Director of this Office. Mr. Both has been a member of several scientific boards and associations, such as the Hungarian Space Board and the Scientific Council for Space Research. From 2006 to 2008 he served as first vice-chairman of COPUOS, he completed his duties with success. Beyond of his mother tongue, Mr. Elod Both is a proficient user of English, German, and Russian, and has a deep knowledge of international organizations and negotiations. The CV of Mr. Both is enclosed herewith.

The Government of the Republic of Hungary would highly appreciate receiving the valuable support of the Government of the United States of America for this candidature.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

End text
Levine